

March 16, 1976

SENATOR F. LEWIS: May I continue, Mr. Chairman, with a couple other questions? Is the \$20,350 for that individual's salary? Is he on leave of absence or what's the circumstances?

SENATOR STULL: I'll be glad to break that down for you. This gentleman at Chadron, it would be \$8,500. They figure half-time professional salary. Then there's the benefits, that's travel, this place where they're doing the research is probably 30 miles from Chadron. Let's see there's one-third professional salary, this is through the Summer. There's student help - 780 hours of student help at \$2.50 an hour. Transportation, travel and meetings that they might be attending - \$1,500. Supplies, postage, printing, etc. - \$800. That's makes up the \$20,350 at Chadron State.

The Panhandle Station provides \$4,800 for one graduate research assistantship; benefits \$430; travel and operations \$600; also some student help there of \$1,500. That's \$7,420 for the Panhandle Station.

Then at the Institute of Agriculture provides for one full-time technician \$8,352; benefits of \$748; one graduate assistantship \$4,800; travel and operations \$500; student help, 400 hours at \$2.50; then analysis \$600; soil analysis \$12 per sample = \$480; travel for the soil scientist \$275; also some aerial photography at \$6.50 a mile. That's \$17,230. For the three Departments a total of \$45,000.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Now, Senator Stull, do we currently have any agricultural research going on in terms of pocket gophers with the University?

SENATOR STULL: Yes. Senator Lewis, this project started at least before last year. These people that were assigned to this did it on a parttime basis, then it developed to the place where they felt that it was taking enough time that it should be funded on its own.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: There is currently no duplication of this kind of research at the University of Nebraska School of Agriculture?

SENATOR STULL: No, not that I know of. I think that's why they're taking part of it ... in this research out there in Western Nebraska.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: The expertise is in the Biology Department at Chadron State and not at the University of Nebraska School of Agriculture.

SENATOR STULL: I beg your pardon? I didn't get your question.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Well I know we spend a lot of dollars for research. I'm not picking, but I'm saying that ... wouldn't it be better for us, and I think the \$45,000 for this project is fine and we ought to view the coyotes that usually take care of the gophers too at the same time. Why don't we just simply give \$45,000 to the University of Nebraska School of Agriculture, which should handle this, and let them make the necessary contracts they want to?